

*One Hundred Forty-Eighth Year*



BACCALAUREATE  
CELEBRATION  
APRIL 25, 2019

# *Baccalaureate Speaker*

## **The Reverend Dr. Elijah Brown**



Elijah Brown assumed the position of general secretary with the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) on January 1, 2018. The general secretary is the CEO of the BWA and has overall responsibilities for the administration and operations of the organization, and is its chief representative to global organizations and institutions, ecclesial and secular, and to governments.

Brown had more than a decade long involvement in the international umbrella organization for Baptists before joining its staff, starting in 2005. In 2007, he was named one of 35 global emerging leaders by the BWA. He is past BWA regional secretary for North America and general secretary for the North American Baptist Fellowship.

He formerly served as a member of the BWA General Council; the Constitution and Bylaws Committee; the Nominations Committee; the Congress Committee; and the Mission, Evangelism, and Justice Advisory Committee. He is vice chair of the BWA Commission on Religious Liberty and is a member of the Commission on Theological Education.

Brown was executive vice president of the 21st Century Wilberforce Initiative, a Christian human rights organization based in Virginia, and was previously associate professor of religion at East Texas Baptist University where he was founding director of the Freedom Center.

The son of a pastor, Brown was ordained to the Christian ministry in July 2002 and was associate pastor at Taylor's Valley Baptist Church in Temple, Texas.

Brown earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor with a double major in religion and history, and a Ph.D. in divinity with a focus on world Christianity from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Brown's specialties lie in human rights and religious liberty. His dissertation focused on issues related to world Christianity, including mission and church growth, peacebuilding and conflict resolution, and the interaction of religion and politics. He helped launch the 21st Century Wilberforce Initiative and became its executive vice president.

He conducted research on, led training events in, and did human rights advocacy work in several countries. He submitted reports to the United Nations and the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, and several foundations and groups.

# AB Alderson Broaddus University

## *A Baccalaureate Celebration*

### **PRELUDE:**

“Canon of Praise” ..... Johann Pachelbel  
E. Richard Kennedy, organ

### **\*PROCESSIONAL:**

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” ..... J.S. Bach  
E. Richard Kennedy

### **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**.....

Danny L. Franke, Ph.D.  
*Professor of Religion and Philosophy*

### **\*HYMN: No. 377**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” ..... Ludwig van Beethoven  
E. Richard Kennedy adapted by Edward Hodges

### **PRAYER** .....

Jeremy S. Linaburg ’19  
*2018-19 President, AB Student Government Association*

### **ANTHEM:**

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” ..... John Wyeth  
The West Virginians  
Lewis R. Hall ’91, M.A., Director  
Chun-Han Sophia Lin, D.M.A., piano

### **SCRIPTURE:**

Acts 13:36 ..... Patricia L. Ritter ’19  
*President, Senior Class*

### **INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER**.....

James “Tim” Barry, Ed.D.  
*President, Alderson Broaddus University*

### **BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS:**

*“Leadership in this Generation”*  
Reverend Dr. Elijah Brown

### **PROCLAMATION: Philippi Baptist Church** .....

President Barry

### **\*PASSING OF THE LIGHT** .....

President Barry

### **\*SONG OF PRAISE:**

“Go Light Your World” ..... Christopher M. Rice  
Chapel Praise Team  
Chun-Han Sophia Lin, D.M.A., piano

### **\*BENEDICTION** .....

Carl W. Gittings ’64, M.Div., Hon.D.D. ’91  
*Chaplain*

### **\*POSTLUDE:**

“F Major” ..... J.S. Bach  
E. Richard Kennedy, organ

*\* If you are able, please stand.*

*One Hundred Forty-Eighth Year*

## *“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus  
With the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us,  
Brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward  
In the triumph song of life.

## *“Go Light Your World”*

There is a candle in every soul  
Some brightly burning, some dark and cold  
There is a Spirit who brings a fire  
Ignites a candle and makes his home

So carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the hopeless, confused and torn  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world  
Take your candle, and go light your world

Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to  
Light his own candle some other way  
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to  
Still holds a candle without a flame

Carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the hopeless, confused and poor  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world  
Take your candle, and go light your world

So carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world  
Take your candle, and go light your world

We are a family whose hearts are blazing  
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky  
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus  
Make us a beacon in darkest time

So carry your candle, run to the darkness  
Seek out the helpless, deceived and poor  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle, and go light your world

*~ Please keep your candle as a memento of the occasion ~*

*A recording of today's ceremony will be available at [ab.edu/graduation](http://ab.edu/graduation)*